

The FCC was created in the interest of protecting the many from the interests of the few.

That the media (whether it be broadcast or printed) is a very powerful force in American society is nothing new. Indeed, many important issues have come under public scrutiny after the media has reported on it. These issues include scandals, wars, corruption, misguided legislation, public unrest, and public struggles for rights.

To further allow media consolidation an already oligarchic and concentrated business would be, without a doubt, detrimental to the wellbeing of the creation of public opinion, and, as well, the dissemination of democracy by the dissemination of ideas.

The most robust network is a decentralized network with independent nodes, and, likewise, the most robust network for information dispersal is a decentralized network with many players.

This can only happen when consolidation and oligarchic practices are constantly repelled by the people, and with the FCC being the strongest weapon of the people, the FCC must work in the interest of the people, unconditionally.

If the entire media system falls into the hands of fewer and fewer players, public opinion will be crafted by fewer and fewer hands. The most extreme example would be a dictatorship, where all radio, television, and newspaper news is crafted by one player - typically, the government. A dictatorship of any kind, is extremely contrary to the ideals of democracy.

By the FCC allowing the right to broadcast and print to be given to fewer and fewer corporations, the future of this nation, and the future of democracy, is threatened.

The rights of the several to profit shall NOT overcome the rights of the many to be informed.

With that, I must ask that the FCC seriously consider the detrimental effects of media consolidation through cross-ownership of broadcast and printed materials, and, furthermore, that the FCC rule in favor of the people, not the profits.

Thank you for your time, A L.